SENATE BILL No. 39

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 14-11-1-9; IC 14-26-2-2.

Synopsis: Responsibility for implementing natural resources doctrine. Requires the department of natural resources (DNR) to implement the public trust doctrine with respect to public freshwater lakes. Requires the natural resources commission to adopt rules identifying at least one division in DNR to implement the public trust doctrine with respect to public freshwater lakes. Adds "wildlife" to the definition of "natural resources".

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Effective: July 1, 2008.

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January 8, 2008, read first time and referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

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Second Regular Session 115th General Assembly (2008)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in this style type, and deletions will appear in this style type.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or *this style type* reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2007 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

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SENATE BILL No. 39

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A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning natural and cultural resources.

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Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

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- SECTION 1. IC 14-11-1-9 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 9. (a) The department is primarily responsible for implementing the public trust doctrine concerning public freshwater lakes (as defined in IC 14-26-2-3). The department shall incorporate the public trust doctrine in the management, licensing, and enforcement practices on these waters.
- (b) The commission shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to identify at least one (1) division within the department that has primary responsibility to implement subsection (a).
- SECTION 2. IC 14-26-2-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "natural resources" means the water, fish, **wildlife**, plant life, and minerals in a public freshwater lake.



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